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WILLIAM H. BEARDSLEY
ACTING COMMISSIONER

Exhibit #VI.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: William H. Beardsley, Acting Commissioner*

DATE: December 9, 2015

SUBJECT: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Site Approval Consideration*;
Portland Public Schools for a new PreK-5 School Construction Project

STATEMENT OF FACT

Acting Superintendent, Jeanne Crocker requests that the State Board of Education approve a site in Portland, Maine, for a new PreK-5 school. The new school will replace the present Fred P. Hall Elementary School.

The proposed site is the existing site of the Hall School and the architect is planning to build the school while the majority of the students remain in the old school.

Alternative sites were looked at and there was a discussion about building the school large enough to close the Longfellow Elementary School and combine the two schools but "no property of the size needed was found that would be located in the proximity to the district population center and with the designed characteristics of a school site."

The site is owned by the city of Portland and is a parcel of 21.3 acres, of which 15 acres are usable. The site has wooded areas, a brook, and a variety of topography.

The city of Portland and the Department of Education support this site for a new replacement school. The Site Application has been received, reviewed, and supported by the Department.

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Grades PreK-5 Elementary School Construction Project
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Project Information:

Project: New PreK-5 elementary school in Portland to replace the Fred P. Hall Elementary School which will be demolished when the new school is completed.

Superintendent: Jeanne Crocker, Acting Superintendent

Architect/Civil Engineer: Oak Point Associates of Biddeford, ME

Total number of acres: 21.3

Purchase Price: N/A (city owned)

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION

The Acting Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to Portland Public Schools for construction of a new elementary school in Portland, Maine under the provisions of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Construction Committee considered this exhibit at its November 30, 2015 meeting and voted to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to Portland Public Schools for the construction of an Elementary School in Portland, Maine.

*Prepared by the Division of School Facilities